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LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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LVHNWEEKLY | POCONO

Your wrap-up of the week's news from LVHN.

It Takes a Team

A message from Maryann Cortese-Rubino, Vice President, Patient Care Services

It's through the challenging times that we witness and experience the true value of the strengths, gifts and talents each of us bring to our team.

This past weekend and over the last two days, severe weather conditions created numerous challenges – closing of interstates, loss of power, internet and cellphone service, and colleagues stranded for hours on roads trying to get to our hospital, outpatient facilities or their homes – just to mention a few. Through all of the challenges, our team stayed committed to putting our patients' needs first and providing safe, quality patient care.

Thank you for your resilience, tireless efforts, and commitment to our patients and our team! "No one can do everything, but everyone can do something." That phrase continues to resonate through my thoughts when I reflect on why our team was so successful during these challenging times. I am proud to serve our team. Again, thank you!



No Pass Zone Champion

Response time to a call light is one of the most highly correlated factors to a patient's overall satisfaction with his or her stay. Patients often view their call light as their "lifeline" to staff and help. Kira Sever, Rehabilitation Services, has been recognized by her peers for always answering a call light when she sees one on. "Kira is always so wonderful to all of our patients," says Kelly Gillick, Director of Patient Relations. "She truly exhibits our PRIDE behaviors 100 percent of the time. She is always there to help patients, families and colleagues with a smile and kindness."

POSITIVE PATIENT TESTIMONIAL

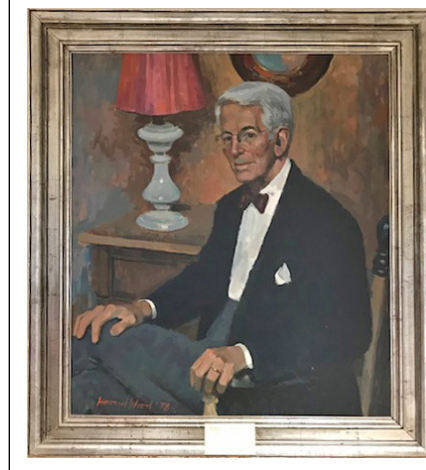
"The X-ray tech and the women in CAT scan were wonderful as well as the transporter, Elizabeth."

Where is it at LVH-Pocono?



▲ **The answer** will be given in the next issue of LVHN Weekly-Pocono. Happy guessing!

▼ Last week's answer



Partnerships Lead to Health Care Innovation

This column, written by LVHN President and Chief Executive Officer Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, appeared in The Morning Call and The Standard-Speaker. Dr. Nester discusses the importance of working together to create healthier communities.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

This powerful and inspirational quote from Helen Keller is applicable to all aspects of life, personal and professional. It's especially true in health care, as we work to discover new and innovative ways to build healthier communities.

Advancing health care today involves more than discovering medical breakthroughs. It requires strong partnerships and a deeper level of thinking. Modern-day health care innovators must discover ways to elevate health care quality and simultaneously lower the cost of providing that care. It's what our health care industry calls the “Triple Aim” – providing better health and better care at a better cost. Delivering health care value is no easy task, but it is possible. In fact, it's what our citizenry deserves.

That is why the health care industry is in the midst of a paradigm shift that is changing the way providers are paid. The industry is moving away from the current model in which providers are paid for each test and procedure performed; a model known as “fee-for-service.” In the future, providers will be reimbursed for their ability to keep patients well so that people can avoid expensive hospital stays and ER visits. This model, known as “fee-for-value,” makes perfect sense. It's the right way to care for people. That's why focusing on the Triple Aim is vital in today's health care world.

Attaining the Triple Aim requires teamwork among the best and brightest minds. Such collaboration is occurring in the Lehigh Valley. A partnership between Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) and Air Products and Chemical, Inc. created the Air Products Center for Connected Care and Innovation. Located in downtown Allentown, it's a place where forward thinkers from around the globe are coming together to find solutions to the most complex problems in health care today.

At that location, important work is being done through a partnership between LVHN and Medtronic, the global leader in medical technology. Clinical, efficiency and technology experts are coming together to reshape how we will care for you and your loved ones in the future. This first-of-its-kind partnership will create innovations that will positively impact as many as 500,000 patients in our region as we address more than 70 medical conditions. New programs, services, processes and technology will be tested at LVHN. The goal: Improve patient outcomes and reduce the cost of providing care by at least \$100 million over the next five years. During that period, we'll eagerly tell you about our progress and what it means for you.

Health care partnerships also give you convenient access to the care you need. That is why Lehigh Valley Cancer Institute joined the Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) Cancer Alliance in 2016. The Alliance is a partnership between MSK – the world's oldest and largest private cancer center – and community oncology providers. Its goal is to improve the quality of care and outcomes for people with cancer in community health care settings. As a result of this



Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP
LVHN President and Chief Executive Officer

partnership, people in our region now have access to the most advanced clinical trials and world-class cancer treatments close to home, giving hope to people with cancer who previously had none. Since the partnership's inception, more than 200 local patients have enrolled in an MSK clinical trial. Furthermore, MSK and LVHN cancer specialists pool their knowledge on a weekly basis to discuss patients requiring urgent treatment.

There's strength in numbers, and when a partnership can bring numerous health care organization together, the result is cost savings. That's what's happening through AllSpire Health Partners' Group Purchasing Organization (GPO). The GPO is combining purchasing volumes and streamlining supplier negotiations for five health systems in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Since its inception, the GPO has achieved \$57.3 million in realized and identified savings for these health systems; \$7.1 million for LVHN alone.

Partnerships between health care organizations are vital. To create a healthier community, however, there is one partnership that is most important of all. It's the partnership between you and your health care provider. A strong bond with your doctor and caregivers empowers you with the care and knowledge to do everything you can – whether it's eating healthy, exercising regularly or managing a chronic condition – to be at your best. I encourage you to embrace the partnership you have with your doctor, because a healthier community begins with a healthier you.

At LVHN, we believe in the power of partnerships. It's why we've been building them for years. We vow to strengthen our existing partnerships and forge new ones to provide the health care value you expect and deserve. Most importantly, we're honored and humbled to partner with you to help you live life to its fullest. It's true; together we can do so much.



Student Athletes Wanted for Football Combine Challenge

Lehigh Valley Health Network Sports Performance is calling on area schools to bring 10 talented members of their football team to compete in the annual High School Football Combine Challenge. The event gives local student athletes an exclusive opportunity to test their athletic abilities against other top athletes in the area.

WHAT'S THE DRILL?

Athletes can test their speed, strength and agility in four competitions:

- ▶ 40-yard dash
- ▶ Standing long jump
- ▶ Vertical jump
- ▶ Pro agility shuttle

WHEN AND WHERE IS THE COMBINE?

Saturday, March 17

LVHN Sports Academy (formerly Game Time Fieldhouse)
155 Nestle Way, Suite 110, Breinigsville, Pa.

Registration for the high school division (grades 9–12) is at 9 a.m. The warm-up begins at 10 a.m. The event will take approximately two-and-a-half hours from warm-up to completion. Individual event and overall team champions will be crowned the day of the event.

GET REGISTERED

The cost is \$10 per athlete, which includes a T-shirt and a free one-day pass to LVHN Sports Performance at LVHN Sports Academy. Space is limited. Register today at LVHN.org/sportscombine.

The top team will receive a free team Knockerball party valued at \$550. If you have questions, call **888-402-LVHN (5846)**.

See If You Won Phantoms Tickets



Did you enter to win free tickets to the Phantoms game? If so, visit LVHN.org/phantoms to see if your name is on the list of winners. Each winner will receive a total of two tickets. Tickets may be picked

up at the PPL Center box office beginning Monday, March 12. The box office is located at 7th & Hamilton streets, Allentown. Its hours of operation are Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (later on

event nights). It's also open Saturday and Sunday on event days only. Tickets also may be picked up on the evening of the game.

Tickets will be reserved under the names of the winners as listed and only released to those individuals. Photo identification, such as your health network ID badge or driver's license, will be required at the time of pick up.

Please review the list closely, paying attention to email addresses. Colleagues with identical names will be differentiated by email address, as it was completed on the entry form.